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G.I.R.S. introduces new program

by John F. Berner, Editor in Chief

The Officers and Directors of the Society unanimously approved a new Authenticity Program in a landmark decision September 13th, 1986. At a special business meeting hosted at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Clem Caldwell, Danville, Kentucky covered a number of important issues. Perhaps the most significant was the introduction of the new G.I.R.S. Authenticity Program and its innovative procedures. Here are the highlights of the new program as proposed: The Fraudulent Artifact Committee will govern the implementation of the program. The committee itself will be comprised of volunteers, rather than appointees. Only persons with specialized expertise who wish to serve on the committee will do so. The committee will be divided into specialized sub-committees. In this way no person will be expected to pass judgement on all types of artifacts.

Decisions made by the committee will be performed in private. This eliminates the potential of peer pressure from members and friends. Members serving on the committee will not be required to endorse a decision by their personal signature. A member's decision can be as simple as "Yes", "No" or "Undecided".

All items submitted to the committee will receive a certificate signed by the Chairperson and imprinted with the Official seal of the G.I.R.S. The opinion of the committee will be stated on the certificate. The program is designed to operate year-round, not just during Society meetings. This will provide an opportunity for the committee to judge a larger number of entries. A nominal charge will be made for this service, with a discount available to all G.I.R.S. members. The service will be available to all members, non-members, other societies and institutions.

Artifacts found to be authentic by this new program will become eligible for publication in a special section of future issues of "Prehistoric Artifacts". By comparison, should an item be found to be a reproduction or fraud, it will be eligible to become a tax-deductible donation to the society Educational Program. Members interested in serving on this committee should address their intentions to the President.

Two meetings planned for 1987

The first of two important meetings for 1987 is in the planning stage and scheduled for the Greater Cincinnati, Ohio area. It has been many

FIG: 1 FRONT COVER: A very rare Monolithic Axe made of very fine grained Greenstone, and measuring 9" in length, 5" in width. This fine artifact is in perfect condition and was discovered in a Stone Box grave in Middle Tennessee in 1968 by Raymond Weatherly of Lebanon, Tennessee. In association were five pottery vessels, a piece of hematite and six large shell beads. This rare artifact is but one of a very few authentic monolithic axes in a private collection.
Collection of Clem Caldwell, Danville, Kentucky

years since the society sponsored a meeting in this tri-state area. Charles S. Wagers, Fairfield, Ohio is planning the event and expects to announce a location and date in the first issue, 1987.

The second meeting planned for 1987 will be held in Chattanooga, Tennessee in mid-September 1987. John Tilley will host this event which is being considered for a two day event.

Other meetings for calendar year 1987 would be welcomed. Any member is welcome to sponsor an event in his or her area, and persons wishing to do so are requested to submit information to the officers of the society as soon as possible.

"Closed" meetings are being considered.

In the beginning, the G.I.R.S. sponsored "members only" meetings. It was indeed a privilege to be an invited "guest". My first introduction to the society came as such an invitation. As I attended this affair, I couldn't help noticing the honesty and integrity of the show. Fakes and Flea market paraphernalia was noticeably absent. I knew instantly, this is the kind of organization I wished to support.

By "closing" our meetings, only members and their invited guests will attend. All persons would wear name tags, those being members would be a different color from guests. And members would be responsible for their guests. Let me assure you; Fake peddlers would not attend! And if a person should be unfortunate to acquire a questionable item while on the premises, the seller would be required to make an immediate refund. Rather than cause a lack of attendance, I think this will increase attendance at our meetings.

Are we on the right track?

Whenever you take a stand, you often wonder if it is the right one. And you can't help question whether it is agreeable to the membership of the society. The only measure we have is based on letters and telephone calls made by our members. These are typical responses received since publication of our 3rd issue for 1986: "...it used to make me sick to read about combating fakes, then see people look the other way as friends sold questionable items to the unsuspecting". (B.W.) "I refused to join the G.I.R.S. in past years, but since you reformed and changed; I am now proud to be a member". (L.R.) "...the 3rd issue of Prehistoric Artifacts is super, your editorials are top quality. I am proud to be a member of the G.I.R.S." (K.B.) "...I whole heartedly support your efforts to identify and expose fake selling and manufacturing". (J.L.) "It is a must that good and bad be identified, and fraud purveyors must be made known to all". (W.E.) "What a magnificent issue, a friend tells me it is his all time favorite journal, and he has looked at his copy every day for the past two weeks". (S.D.) "...I will gladly volunteer my 40 years of collecting expertise to help the G.I.R.S. identify frauds". (J.C.) "...if the price we pay for a clean show is a few empty tables, so be it". (L.T.) "I walked away 5 years ago in disgust, now I want to rejoin". (W.F.M.) "I want to commend you for the stance against fraudulent artifacts and the people who peddle them. Keep up the good work and let me know how I can help". (M.M.)

It's letters like these that make all of this worthwhile. And in addition to the many members who recently responded to the society, six archaeological societies have requested assistance from the G.I.R.S. It appears, we are on the right track!

The future of artifact collecting.

There's a saying that people will put up with adversity only so long, and then they will do something about it. From all indications, the majority of collectors and societies are tired of the rip-off artists. A number of major fake makers and dealers who make a livelihood from peddling questionable items have seemed to have lost their popularity. And it's about time.

But what about the new and novice collectors who are just starting to become interested in this fine avocation? I think we need to encourage young and new collectors. And we can do this very effectively by assisting them with information and sharing facts. One of our directors, Jim Dresslar, brought this to the attention of our officers and other directors at the recent business meeting. And he suggested we consider junior memberships. I think Jim has offered a splendid idea. He also introduced another valid point. Whereas most of us who consider artifact collecting a minor investment, without new and younger collectors; who will buy our collections when we need to sell?

Let me share a personal experience. For many early years of collecting, my artifacts were found only. Then one day I spotted a fine looking piece far more attractive than anything I had ever found. And I bought it. And quickly learned it was a Fake. Without the support of older, and more seasoned collectors I might have given up right then. And if it wasn't through the kindness and generosity of many of those fine people, I would never have enjoyed the ownership of the many rare and fine pieces I have had the pleasure of owning. The future of artifact collecting and the G.I.R.S. will depend on our new and younger collectors. Let's start today!

A Rare Water Bottle Pipe

This unusual and rare pottery vessel was found in Arkansas, just west of Memphis, Tennessee in March 1982 by Bill Wilkie. The pipe is formed in the shape of a flared rim water bottle with a fluted base stand. The mouth of the bottle forms the bowl of the pipe. The large stem hole bisects the bowl area from the side of the vessel. A perforated cone of hematite was drilled to fit the stem orifice of the pipe. It is greatly deteriorated, probably from the heat of smoking. (It is highly possible that an additional stem was used with the hematite conical tubular stem). Height 2-1/2", diameter 2-1/2", length 2-3/8".

Collection of Son Anderson, Valley, Alabama

FIG: 2

FIG: 3

Bottom view showing decorated bottle/pipe base and hematite cone that was probably used as a supplemental stem. Note: the hematite cone fits nicely into the stem hole of the pipe.

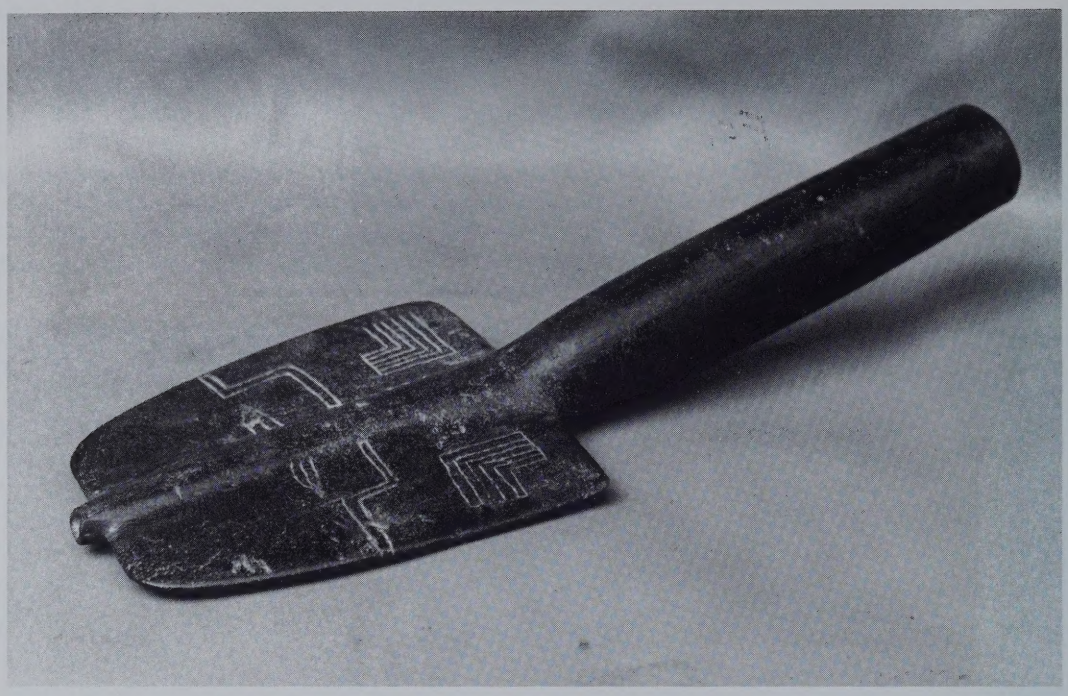


FIG: 4

Obtuse Angled large Steatite Pipe found 13 years ago in a small rock mound at Perry County, Kentucky. This highly developed smoking instrument measures 14-1/2" in length and the flared stem is 5-1/2" in width. When found this fine artifact had been anciently "killed", as it typical of these artifacts. It can be surmised that it may have been made near the forks of the Holston River area in Virginia, where a large number of similar artifacts have been discovered. This pipe is identified as a stemless type, and most are engraved with geometric designs similar to those on this artifact.

Collection of Tom Davis, Stanton, Kentucky

FIG: 5

Highly polished 3/4 grooved Archaic axe found Montgomery County, Kentucky. The nearly black granite axe shows heavy polishing over the previously pecked surface, measures 8" in length.

Collection of Tom Davis, Stanton, Kentucky

FIG: 6

Interesting Effigy Bowl featuring the ears, eyes and snout of the Opossum apliqued to the gray ware vessel. Four suspension holes perforate the piecrust type rim of the Bell plain bowl. Found in Mississippi County, Arkansas; it measures 4-3/4" diameter, 3" height.

Collection of Bill Bickers, Marietta, Georgia

FIG: 7

Unusual and rare, "Four legged" flared rim bowl found in a Hopewellian Mound near Meppen, Illinois by Walter L. Wadlow approximately 1955. Remnants of the coiling process used in the manufacture of these vessels has been retained as a design element by the ancient maker. Shown 2/3rds actual size.

Collection of W.G. Fecht, E. Alton, Illinois

FIG: 8
Two fine early man projectiles. (Left) Orange, rust colored heat treated flint "Simpson" type found in South Alabama. Ex Ben Thompson collection. (Right) Yellow/tan flint Clovis type projectile found in Henry County, Alabama.
Collection of Sgt. Charles Ray, Berlin APO

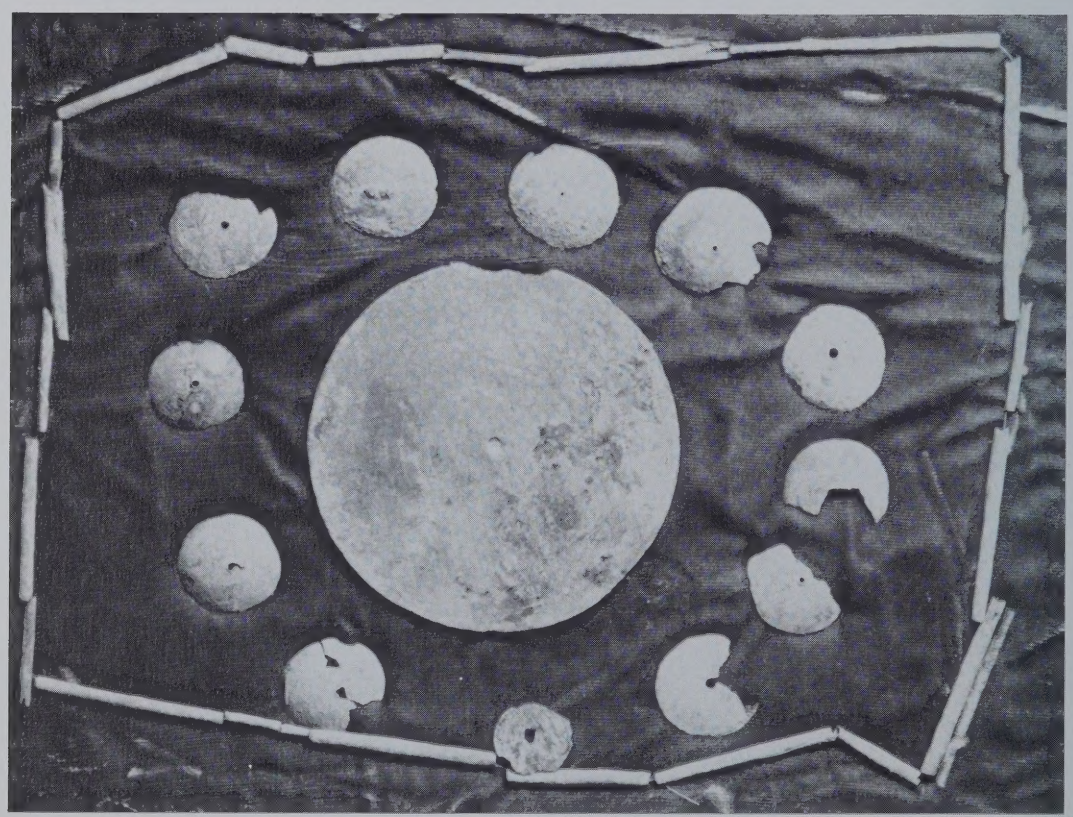


FIG: 9
Large copper breastplate with engraved concentric Sun Circle designs. The 12 smaller copper discs and 24 rolled copper tubular beads are from Elmore County, Alabama along the Tallapoosa River, the "Old town of Tuckabatchie". Similar breastplates are identified on page 204 of "Sun Circles and Human Hands".
Collection of Barry Griffin, Martinez, Georgia

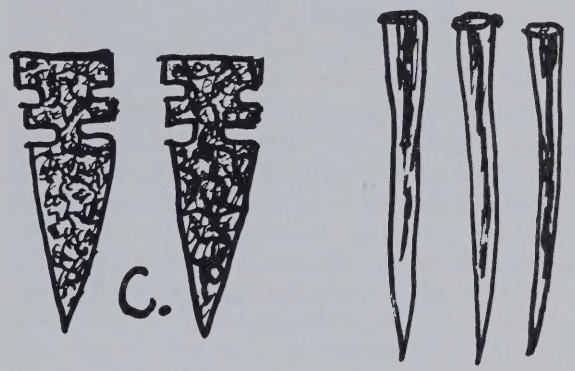
The Fecht Long Nose Mask Ear Ornaments

by William G. Fecht

Eighteen years ago several artifact collectors began excavating a ridge overlooking the Illinois River in Calhoun county, near the little village of Meppen. They reported the following information: "a group of five extended burials were found about three feet in depth. One half of a pottery vessel was associated with one burial. (Fig: 10-A) It was 9" in diameter, 7" in height and was shell tempered grayware. It featured a thin bottom, was a dry texture and very well made. It featured two loop handles.

Twenty feet East of this discovery was found an extended burial lying in a north to south orientation similar to the other burials. Associated with this particular burial was another pottery vessel. At a depth of approximately three feet, (Fig: 10-B) and located near the skull, a complete constricted side bowl measured 7" in height, 6" diameter and a 3" rim diameter. This shell tempered vessel was a yellow color, and also dry texture; and very well made. Archaeological Consultant, Gregory Perino, Idabel, Oklahoma classes both vessels as belonging to the Middle Mississippian culture and identified as Powell plain ware.

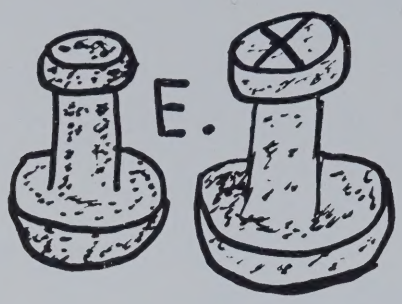
At an additional twenty feet of this area, and at a depth of a few inches was discovered another extended burial. The tomb was six feet in length and the head was oriented west, feet toward the east and the Illinois River. In association with this burial were found two, four notched "Cahokia" type projectiles and several splinter bone awls, suggested to be scarifiers. (See Fig: 10-C).



Some fifteen feet south of this group of five burials, a flexed burial was located approximately 28" deep with an East to West orientation. The head of this particular burial rested upon a flat rock, the torso upon another and the feet upon a third. Near this flexed burial, and at the same approximate depth; an extended burial was found and placed behind the skull was a crescent shaped river mussel shell ornament. It measured 1-1/2" in diameter and is not unlike a fishhook. (See Fig: 10-D).

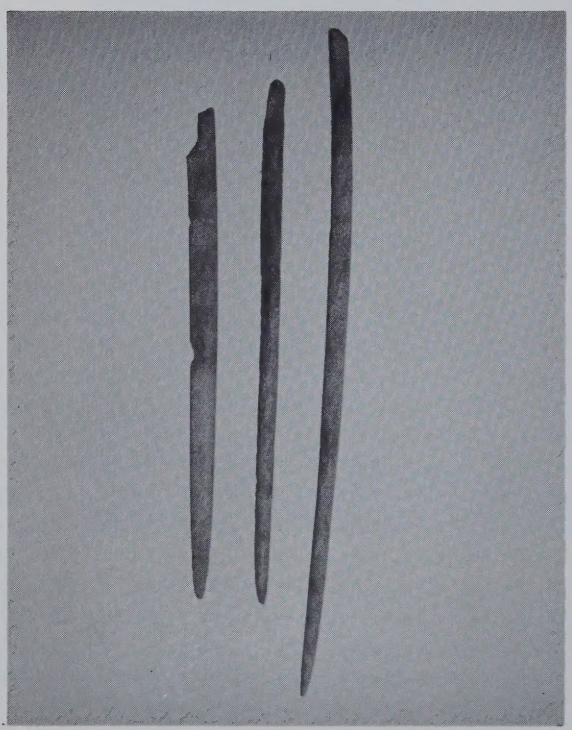
Ten feet east of the burial grouping, a second stone vault was discovered. This was found at a depth of only two inches below the present earth surface. The burial vault lay north to south and measured only four feet in length and 10" in width. A large quantity of white ashes was contained in the vault and in association were two small Pottery Trowels. (Fig: 10-E) These miniature Trowels were approximately 2-1/2" in height and 2" in width at the base. They were grayware, shell tempered and a cross or "X" decorated the top of one trowel. It is important to note that the vaults featured limestone sides, floors and coverings and were well fashioned.

(Fecht Long Nose Mask...cont'd.)

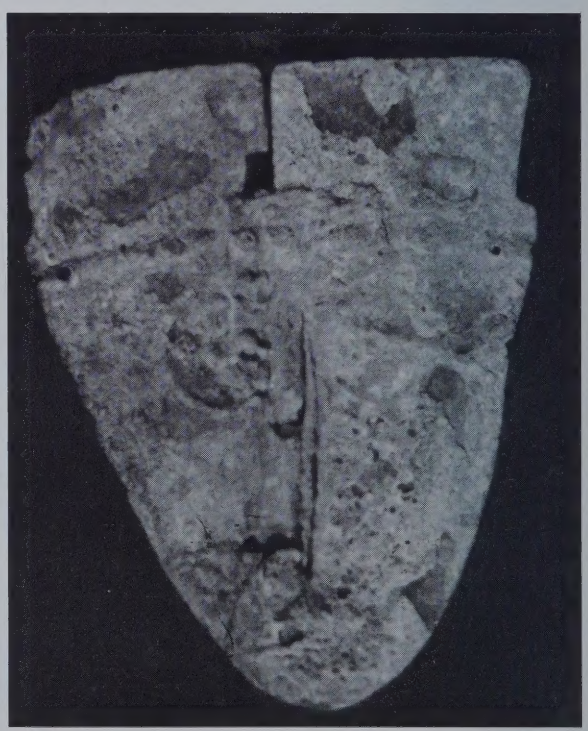


In near association, a blue granite hammerstone (with extensive damage) measuring 5" in diameter and 2" in thickness was found on the surface. It was the bi-pitted type. A small chunk of galena, well worn and the size of a walnut was discovered in the fill dirt. All of these burials were interred in a crescent type pattern on this ridge and did not integrate into a prominent mound. the concentration of the burials were facing the river. The importance of this background information on this site is relevant to the forthcoming story.

Several months following the previous discoveries, myself and an associate, Mr. David Redmann, visited the site. We had been granted permission to excavate the site. We climbed the steep hill and began our tasks. Approximately 3 feet due south of the stone vault cremation, we discovered two extended burials at a depth of approximately 30" below the surface. The burials were oriented East to West. The first burial encountered was without a skull and a flat rock replaced the head. Upon the rock were placed three bone hairpins, measuring 7", 7-1/2" and 9-1/2" in length respectively. (See Fig: 11).



The other burial faced due North. As I uncovered the left side of the skull, a "Long Nose Mask Ear Ornament" was revealed. For myself, the discovery and surprise of this find was the ultimate, having no equal. Then another mask was found on the other side of the head.



(Fecht Long Nose Mask...cont'd)

Both Masks are made from sheet copper (Fig:12), side view. Frontal view (Fig: 13). One micro hole was drilled on either side of each mask for suspension. A drilled shell barrel bead measuring 3/4" in length was found between the left side of the skull and the mask. The nose of the masks measure 9" in length where they join the face of the mask. One Mask face is 2-1/4" in length and 2-3/16" in width. The other Mask face measures 2-1/2" length, 2" width.

Long Nose Mask Ear Ornaments are made of shell and others of sheet copper. A short nose variety has been found made of shell, bone and stone. Stone specimens carved on a pipe called "Big Boy" were found in the Spiro Mound in Oklahoma during the 1930's. (Fig: 14, 15). These illustrations show precisely how much Masks were worn. Gregory Perino dates both the short nose and long nose masks at approximately 1200 A.D.

It appears there are two schools of thought concerning the cultural relationship of these Masks. Some people believe they are related to the Cahokia Mounds area which is located near East St. Louis, Illinois. Others believe they may be related to the ancient tribes of Old Mexico. At least eight Masks of both types have been found in the Metro St. Louis area and at some satellite locations. The reason that they are referred to as "Long Nose God Masks" is because early archaeologists thought they were related to the Rain God of Old Mexico.

In ancient Mexico, the tribes believed in multi-Gods, such as the Sun God, the Fire God, the Hurricane God, and the Rain God. It is said that the Mexican Mask variety is of a full face size, whereas those found in this area are miniature in comparison. Perhaps some day we will learn if there is in fact, a link between the Masks of Mexico and our "Long Nose Mask Ear Ornaments".

References: Mound Exploration at Meppen, I1
W.G. Fecht, July 1955, Vol. 1,
No. 2 Central States Journal
Special thanks to Gregory Perino and Dr. James B. Griffen for their kind consultation.
"Big Boy" photo, courtesy of University of Missouri, Arkansas

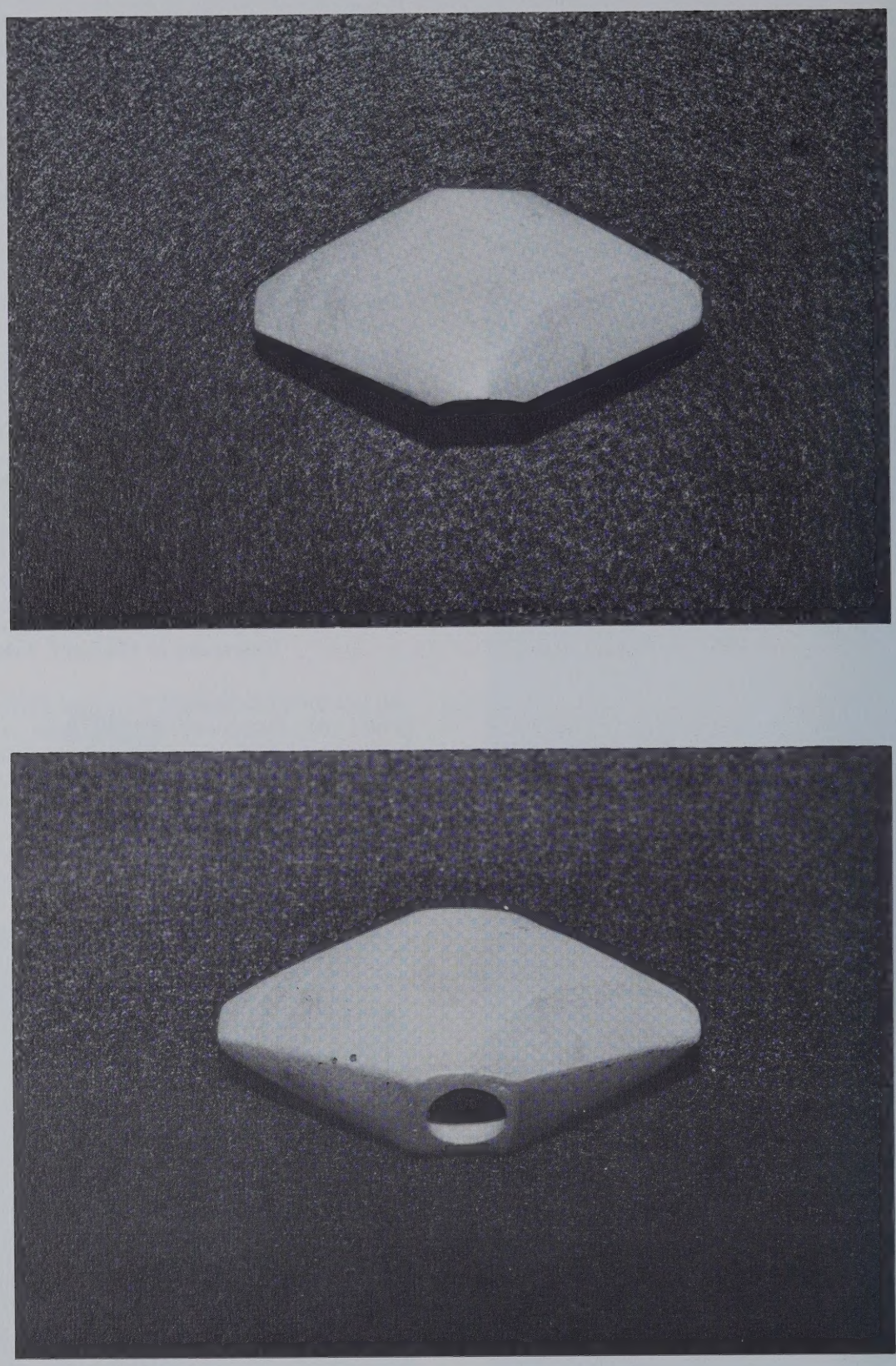


FIG: 16
Two views of a Modified shuttle type Greenstone banner. It was found in 1974 by Thomas O. Horner, (deceased) of Lobeville, Tennessee on the Hubert Carroll farm, south of Linden, Tennessee on the S. West bank of the Buffalo River in Perry County. Measures 3-1/2" x 1-3/4" x 1".

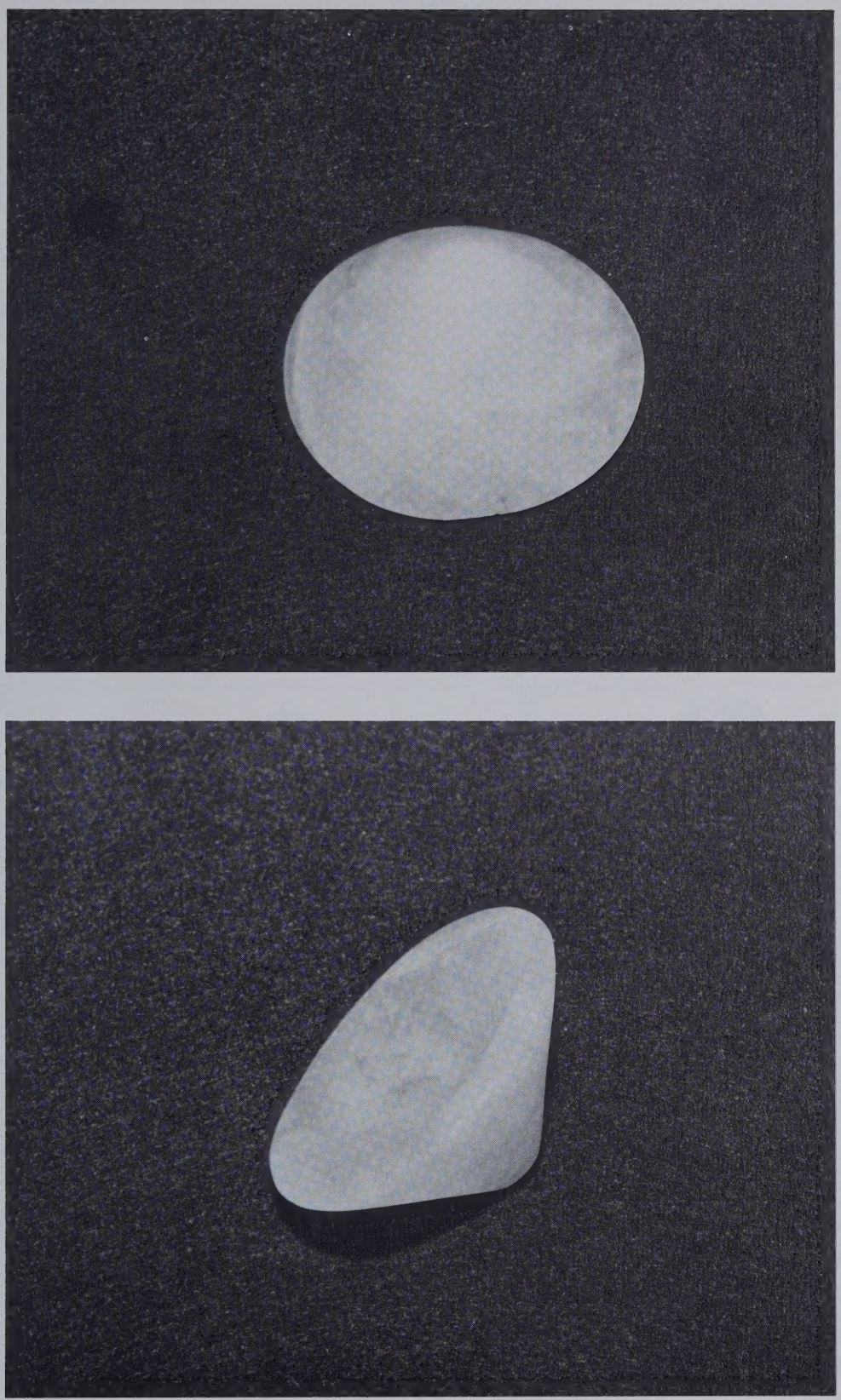


FIG: 17
Two views of a rare White Quartz Cone. This artifact is scooped out on the bottom very deeply. It was found in 1968 by Tommy Boren of West Memphis, Arkansas in an old creek bed in some bottoms near Elaine, Phillips County, Arkansas. Measures 2-3/4" x 1-1/2".

FIG: 18
Twenty four nature study decorations utilized on highly artistic pottery of the Mimbres peoples. Featuring fowl and animal effigies in stylized configurations. Courtesy of the Gila Pueblo collections, from "A history of the ancient southwest".

Strange enigma of Mimbres Decoration, Part II

by A.J. Wesolowski

In our previous journal, the first of three parts depicting the stylistic representations of life by the famous Mimbres culture of Southwestern New Mexico dealt with the life in the sea. It was interesting to note that while the aquatic representations were salt water variety and not local to the living environment of the Mimbres, the birds and animal portrayed were locally familiar to the inhabitants. But this is not true in all incidents. A large number of the representations are phantoms of the imagination and appear as mythical portrayals.

The beautiful two dimensional art of the Mimbres is par none. And it has been compared to the artistic talents of the far distant Japanese drawings of the 17th and 18th century. In these instances of art forms, the distinctive outline characteristics of the life forms are emphasized to produce an easily recognizable identity of the portrayal. A number of the art devices are static, while others simulate the action pose of the animal or the bird. With rare exception, the animal or bird may face toward the viewer; but the majority depict side views so diagnostic in identifying the species. More often than not however, the geometric patterning within the body of the species creates a pleasing digression from the life form. Of particular note is the tiny animal perched atop the horns of the animal form depicted in row 5, 3rd from left. Another enigma is the placing of the precarious burden on the back of the horned beast pictured in row 6, 2nd from left. Truly mythical is the "Thunderbird" with outstretched wings depicted in row 2, 4th from left and the "turkey" tail placed at the end of the torso on the beast in row 6, 3rd from the left. This indicates the potential of a bit of "humor" in the artistic impressions of the famous Mimbres culture of the great southwest.

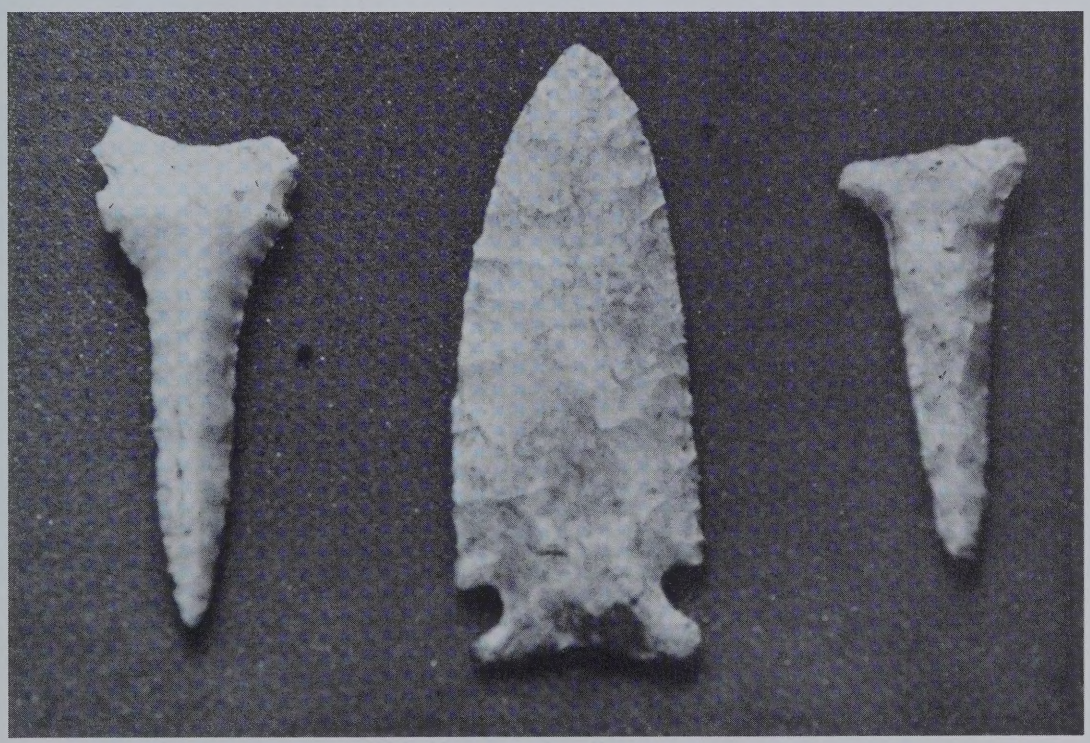


FIG: 19

White fint drill, 2-1/2", found 1985, Plainfield Twp, Will Co. Il. (Center) Side notched point 3-1/2" x 1-3/16" found 1984, white with grey inclusions, Grundy County, Il. (Right) White flint drill, 2-1/16" found 1984 in Kendall County, Illinois. All found by the owner.

Collection of Francis Wolz, Joliet, Illinois

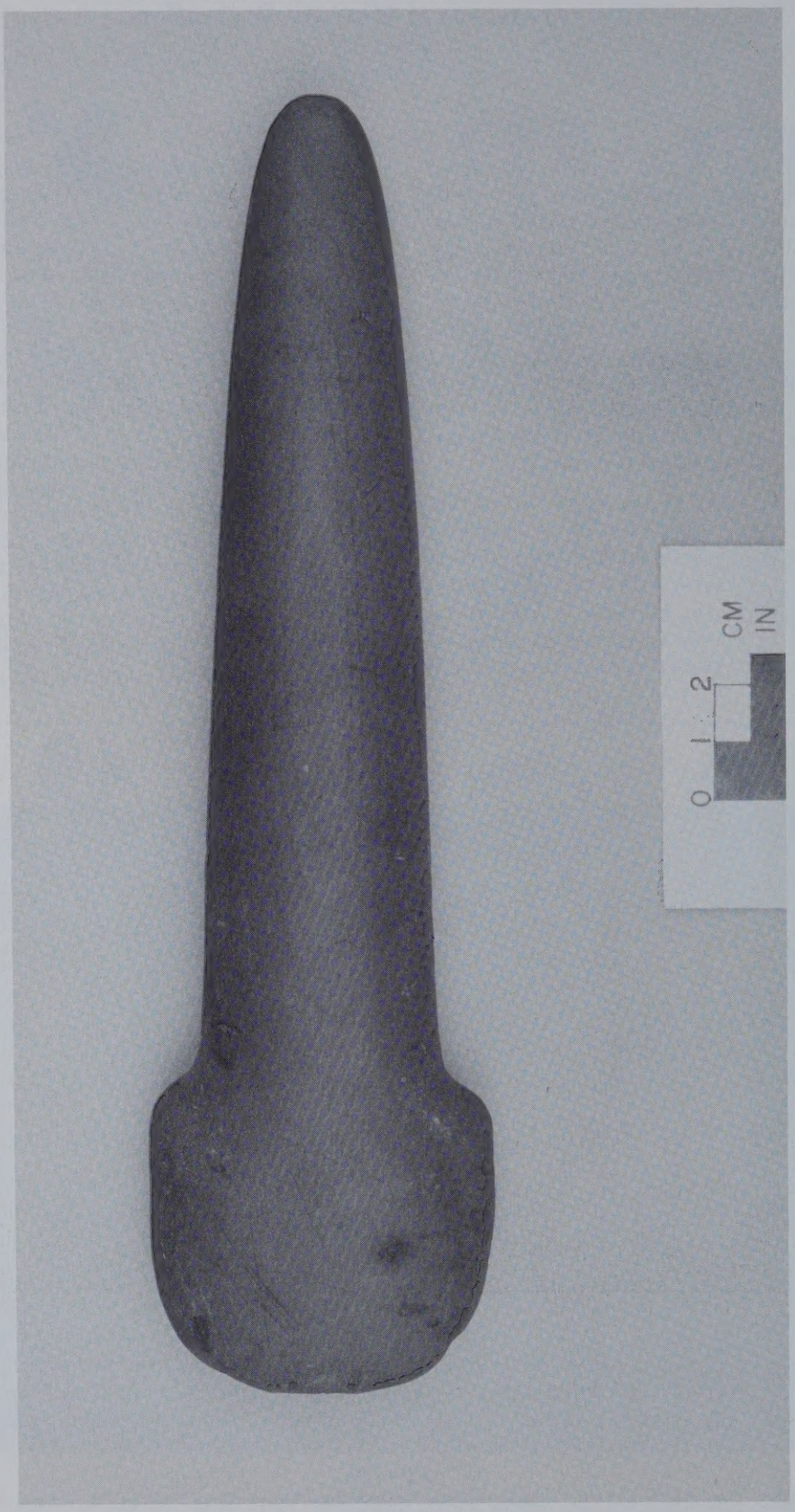


FIG: 20
Spatulate of Greenstone measuring 8-3/4" in length, 2-3/8" across the bit, found in Tennessee. Formerly in the collection of Dr. T. Hugh Young, Fain King and Dr. Rollin Bunch.
Collection of Ray Kilgore, Cusseta, Alabama

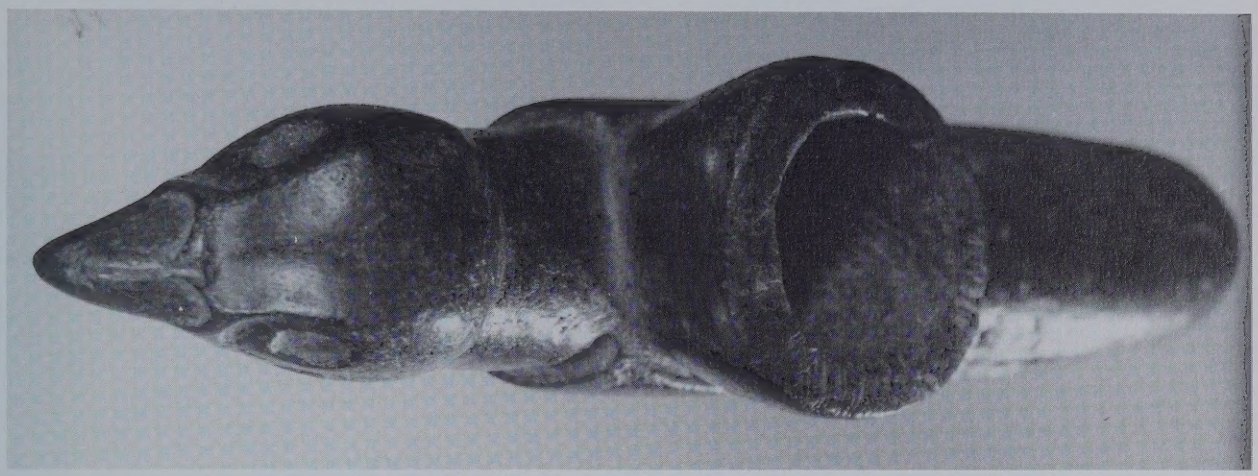
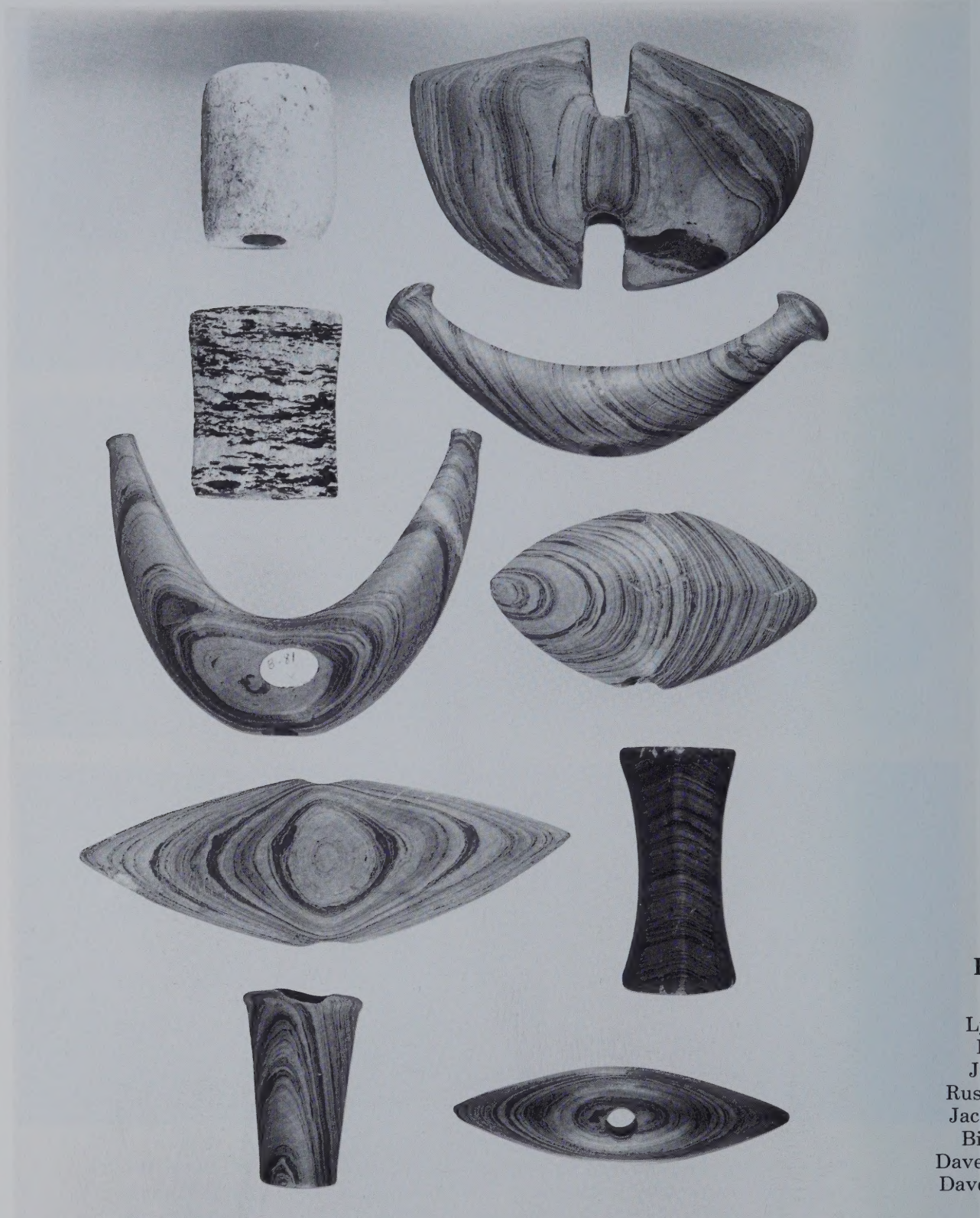


FIG: 21, 22, 23

(Top view, left side view, and right side view of the Boone Eagle Bird Pipe) This great pipe, made of grey green steatite was found in early February of 1975 along the Choctawabatchie River in South east Alabama. The finder was discing his fields and stopped to clear the disc. He noticed the pipe and recognized it has been recently cut by the farming tool, which broke a fragment of the bowl. All portions were recovered. The pipe which measures just a fraction over 9" in length was kept in a bag with 12 broken flints and a small celt in his barn. While the body of the bird is not especially defined, the ancient craftsman placed considerable effort on precisely carving the head of the bird.

Collection of Bobby Boone, Headlands, Alabama



Left Column
Butler Co., KY
Spencer Co., IN
Whitley Co., IN
Indiana
Southern Indiana

Photographed by Bill Koup

FIG: 24

Right Column
Montgomery Co., OH
Carroll Co., IN
Cass Co., IN
Williams Co., OH
DeKalb Co., IN

BANN

CON
Lynn Br
Fred D
Jim Fell
Russ Gillic
Jack Kistl
Bill Koup
Dave Patto
Dave Ramp

TONES

TORS
uburn, IN
burn, IN
ester, IN
rubusco, IN
rgetown, IN
ubusco, IN
nbia City, IN
nbia City, IN

Left Column
Hamilton Co., OH
Kent Co., MI
Union Co., OH

FIG: 25

Right Column
Carroll Co., IN
Cass Co., IN
Ashland Co., OH
(left) Indiana
(center) Ohio
(right) Wyandot Co., OH
Whitley Co., IN

FIG: 26

"Death Skull" effigy strap handle vessel. Features four skulls spaced evenly around bowl rim. Strap handle aplique is simulated only with vertical incised decorations. Height 3-3/4", diameter 4-3/8", found St. Francis site, Lee County, Arkansas.

Collection of Rodney M. Peck, Harrisburg, N. Carolina

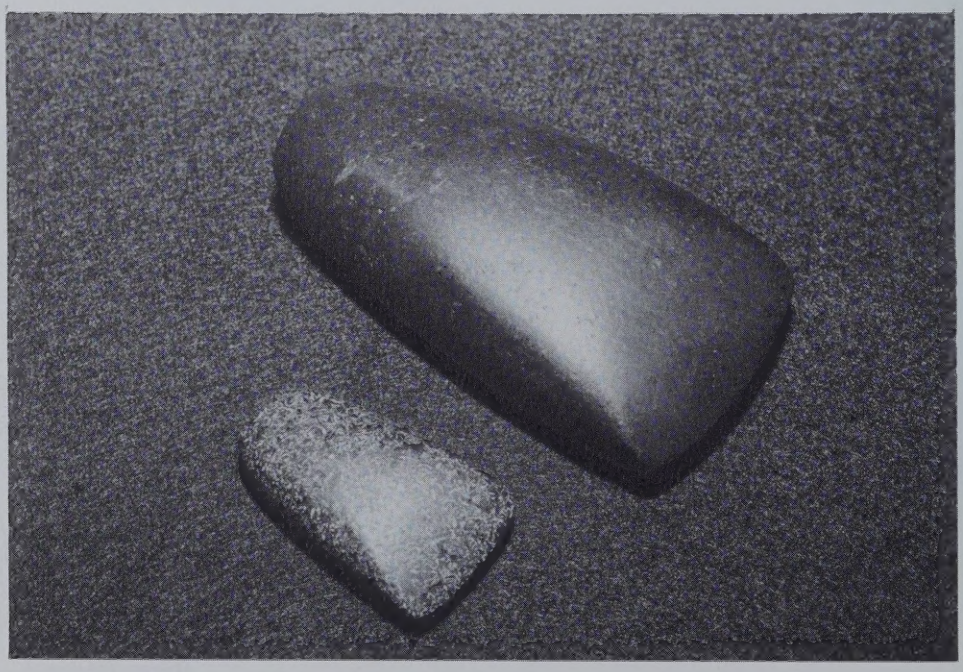


FIG: 27

Fine Black Gabro highly polished celt found 1968 by an elderly one-armed black man in a field next to his house at the McKnight site, Cross County, Arkansas, measures 4-1/2" x 2-1/4" x 1-3/4".

Small Wirey Granite celt found in 1978 by Robert Howell, Memphis, Tennessee on the Bradley site, Crittenden County, Arkansas. Measures 2-1/4" x 1-1/4" x 3/4".

FIG: 28
Fine collection of Bi-concave Adena and Keyhole type Adena Pendants, made of banded slate. Formerly in collection of Dr. Gordon Meuser, B.W. Stephens, Dr. Stanley Copeland.
Collection of Howard Steere, Manchester Center, Vermont

FIG: 29
Variety of large Sandal Sole slate type gorgets, formerly in well known old-time collections.
Collection of Howard Steere, Manchester Center, Vermont

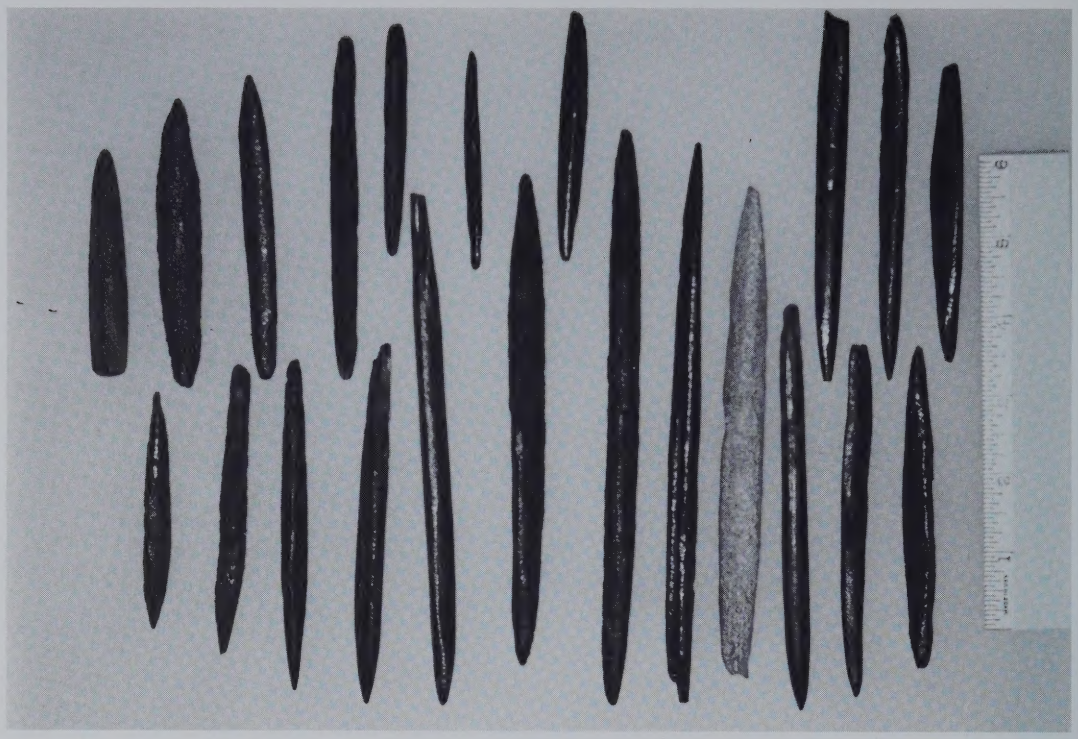


FIG: 30
22 bone points (or pins) found by scuba diving in Florida Rivers.
Collection of C.S. Wagers, Fairfield, Ohio

FIG: 31
Variety of bone tools, points and implements recovered during scuba diving by Florida collectors.
Collection of C.S. Wagers, Fairfield, Ohio

Florida River Bone Points

by C.S. Wagers

Bone points such as those shown in the photograph are a commonly collected artifact by some of the Florida river scuba diver collectors. One of the most puzzling aspects of these points is the quantity in which they are found. One diver reported finding thirty on a single dive. One seems to find about ten of these bone points for every one flint point.

The points seem to be concentrated on the river bottoms where quantities of deer bone are found. This suggests a direct association with a hunting occupation.

The numbers in which these points are found and their shape lead to some interesting speculation as to their use. Many of the local divers refer to them as hairpins or awls. Their numbers, however, indicate a more common use than an awl or hairpin.

This leads to the writer's theory that they were an easily manufactured, expendable projectile point. Their shape would make them readily socketed into a cane shaft. Once an animal was struck with one of these darts, the shaft would likely disengage, leaving the bone projectile in the animal.

The round shape and size of the point would be condusive to killing an animal by hemorrage as would a flint point. Basically, hemorrage is the manner in which an arrow or spear brings down game such as a deer.

This leads one to question the effectiveness of these as projectile tips. A possible answer to this would be the use of a poison. The bone tip, poisoned and remaining in the animal would then be a very effective weapon.

These tips appear to be typically made from the canon bone of the deer. The bones appear to have been splintered and then ground to a needle sharp point. Several points could be made from one bone and the manufacturing process would be very fast and simple. A lost point would be of little concern. Another possible use might be a fish spear in which several of these tips were mounted to form a gig arrangement.

These points being found in the rivers is generally considered the result of a rise in the water level of the river. The theory is that ancient man in this area spent considerable time in the sink holes which now form the basis of many of these rivers. The sink holes are essentially caves or caverns. As water levels rose the sink holes and the springs that form them became part of the river system. An interesting similarity is noted by comparing the Florida points to similar bone relics recovered from Ft. Ancient trash pits in the Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky area.

Although these Ft. Ancient relics are not found in the quantities of their Florida counterparts, many appear virtually identical. This comparison perhaps gives us an indication of the age and cultural period of the Florida points. On the other hand, the comparison also leads one to question if the Ft. Ancient relics are awls as they are generally considered, or a form of projectile point.

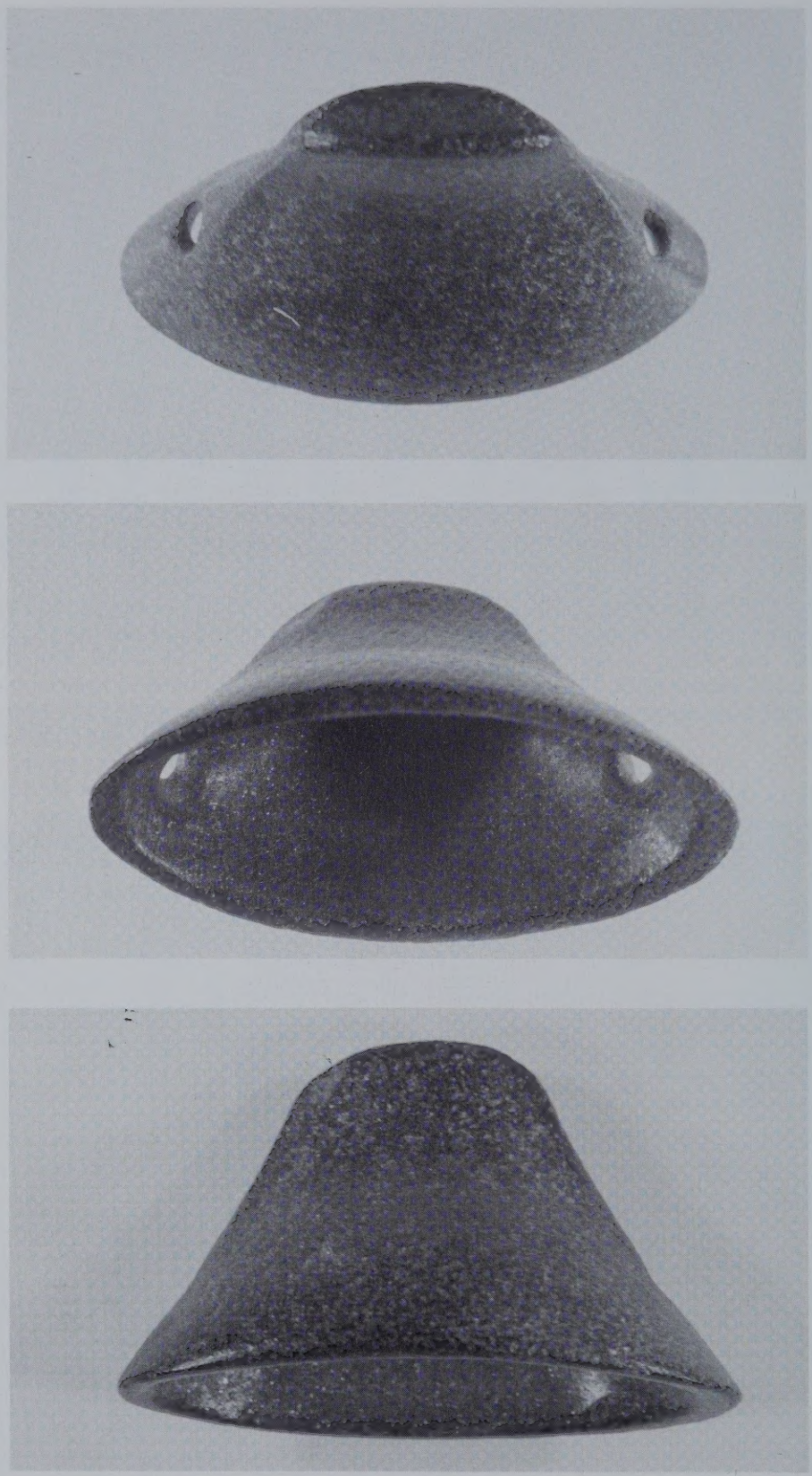


FIG: 32, 33, 34
Finely made Highly polished Steatite Boatstone, dark green in color; found in a flowing stream by Ed Ryan on August 11, 1986. Length: 2-3/4", 1-7/16" height, 1-1/4" width. Chattahoochee County, Georgia.

FIG: 35
Large and solid Mississippian Bell-plain waterbottle. Has high shoulders and prominent fire clouds. Formerly in the collection of H.R. McPherson who made the owner a gift of the artifact in 1972. Height 14", Diameter 14-1/2".
Collection of Sam & Nancy Johnson, Murfreesboro, Arkansas

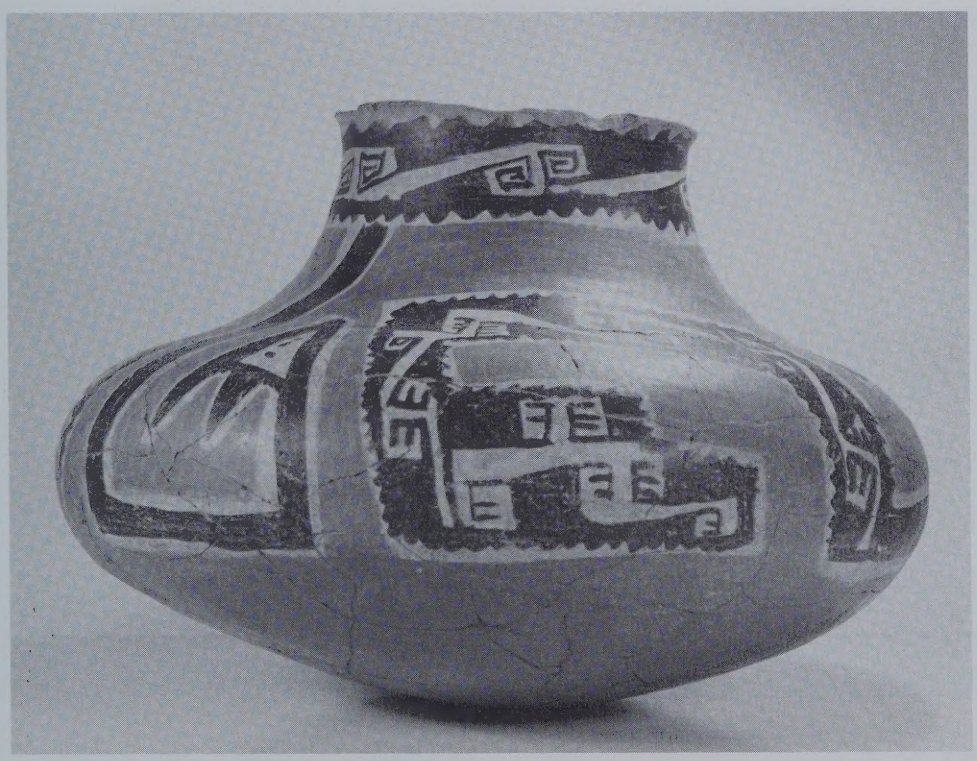


FIG: 36
Large Tonto Basin Olla from Arizona. Salado culture 1200-1400 Ad. Red, white and black paint, 12" height, 14" diameter.
Collection of Sam & Nancy Johnson, Murfreesboro, Arkansas

FIG: 37

Fine flint projectile made of a beautiful waxy brownish gray flint measuring 4-1/2" long and extremely wide. Purchased 5/30/84 from Jimmy Bugg of Henderson, Kentucky who found it on a high ridge two miles from the Green Rivers after an area of land was cleared. (photo by Gerber)

Collection of Art Gerber, Tell City, Indiana

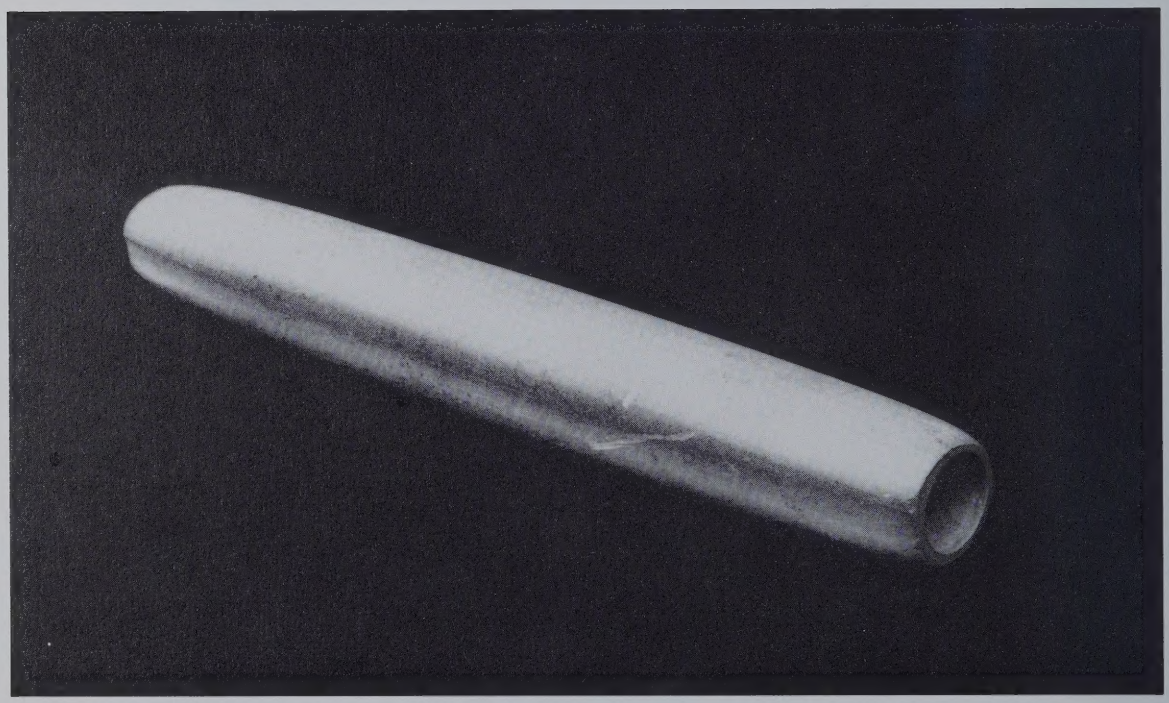


FIG: 38

Fantastic Tubular Bannerstone of Green shale found by Stan Davis in 1983 while surface hunting a construction site within the city limits of Gallatin, Sumner County, Tennessee. Measures 7-3/8" in length, 1" in diameter with 9/16" perforation tapering to 1/2" in diameter.

Collection of Mike McCoy, Mt. Juliet, Tennessee

Facts about Fakes
by John F. Berner

Each time I begin this continuing series of articles, I begin to wonder a new if you, our members are sick and tired of hearing about Fakes. Then I think back about all the letters to the Editor received since our last journal and again the inspiration sets in. We must be doing something right because all the letters say basically the same thing. Keep on going. In two years of publication, we have yet to receive a single letter asking that we eliminate this article. So here we go again.

I have tried with each successive part of this series to feature some type of artifact which modern man has manipulated to try to outwit the experienced. This time he came very close. For your viewing displeasure, I ask you to look closely at the engraved and fenestrated "Rattlesnake" shell gorget. And I mean look very closely. The gorget is genuine. The fenestration and the engraving is not ancient. What we have in this instance is some greedy profiteer has acquired a genuine ancient and authentic plain shell gorget, probably found somewhere in the Southeastern part of the United States and dated approximately in the Dallas cultural period. It is important to recognize that the Dallas people of the Mississippian times made a significant number of large Whelk shell gorgets to deposit with their dead. And only a small percentage of them were engraved, or fenestrated and engraved. Now some persons are not happy with the term fenestration. This according to the professional archaeologist's description is the technique of removing areas of the article to create a cut-out effect that compliments the engraved design. Since this is the popular term, we'll live with it for now.

Let's talk basics. The reworked item illustrated in my opinion is absolutely worthless as an artifact. Before the masters of deceit got a creative idea, the gorget would have commanded approximately $200 to $250 on the collector market. But with the ingenious addition of sawing some cut-out work to go with the engraved design (of recent vintage), the gorget would now seek an investor with $1000 to $1500. There was no modification of the back of the artifact and the encrustations of time remain. This is one of the key details used by the Fakers to trap you. Now I am not going to suggest the specific tools utilized in this endeavor, but I speculate the high speed tiny drills used by a dentist would serve nicely. And they could also be used to cut out the fenestrated shell areas. The frauds that did this job were very lazy. So lazy and greedy that they didn't bother to brush away the minute shell grinding removed during the modern engraving. But this was only visible with high power magnification. Some substance was then smeared over the newly engraved areas to simulate burial deposit. Let harden and dry and now we have another example of Fraud, ready for market. Incidently, the exact design was copied from a genuine artifact found by Moorhead at the Etowah mounds during exploration in 1932. I can hear it now: "Look at this, it's just like the one found at Etowah...it may be the same one from the Museum".

You know that while I get to see a lot of these travesties, I can't do much more to prevent the traffic in them than inform you and others about what's happening. This brings to mind an incident of a few years ago when a novice collector was returning from an auction with an obvious fake and said it was pictured in an old Archaeological Journal. So it was. It was also explained a page or two later in that journal that the piece was considered questionable.

New subject. I am gravely concerned about a situation that is taking advantage of some nice people. Recently I attended a show in the midwest. Several fine elderly gentlemen who are very fond of slate artifacts were displaying only. As many as 20 highly desirable type slate artifacts were in each display. Unfortunately, I counted 7 reproductions in one case, and 4 in the other. Now these fakes were not the run of the mill attempts to cheat the casual relic buyer at a flea market affair. The grain of the slate was utilized correctly to make the reproduction, the drilling was biconical as would be expected, and the finish very closely simulated ancient arti-

(Facts about Fakes...cont'd.)

facts of similar kind. The design and shape was very nearly correct. Obviously somebody is going to a lot of trouble to cheat the serious collectors of slate artifacts. Several of these reproductions appear to be the work of the same hand and slate factory. That's because the identical drill was used to perforate two items in the same collection. Now the identity of the Faker is known by a number of experienced collectors. They say the maker also is very adept at making and reworking stone axes, and has produced a few pipes as well. Those I have seen are made of Sandstone and Ohio Pipestone and are monstrosities representing animal and bird effigies. While the majority of these fakes are cabineted in Central Ohio, a number are finding their way into Northern Kentucky and Eastern Indiana. And within the past two weeks, one slate keeled gorget lost the auction war and returned home to the consignor. Now the problem confronting me and our directors at this time is the fact that while this particular maker is well known, the person has been welcomed at artifact meetings and allowed to offer these fraudulent wares to all unsuspecting collectors.

Some good news! Word around the collecting circle has it that the F.B.I. has prepared a 28 page document detailing an undercover investigation into the trafficing practices of a well known purveyor of Fakes.

Our expose on the Southern quadriconcave gorget business has virtually dried up the source of these reproductions. Unfortunately, the makers are now producing Eliptical and Rectangular gorgets of Tan and Reddish brown stone, and some circular slate fakes. Beware and have fun. There's still plenty of genuine artifacts available.

FIG: 39
This polychrome Casas Grandes vessel is 9" high, 8" wide and portrays a smiling human countenance in Kachina fashion with stylized Macaw birds colors: Red, Tan and Black. Human Kachina side shown.

The Casas Grandes Culture

Medio period: 1060-1340 AD

The last date has been set almost to the day by scientific dating and the evidence of a great disaster which happened to the city of Casas Grandes at this time. This is the time when the Medio period dating from 1060 AD to 1340 AD was in its prime. This period in terms of Casas Grandes is the time of greatest development.

The city of Casas Grandes, the largest and main city of this culture is located about 100 miles southwest of Jaurez, Mexico. Their settlements, influence and trade area extends somewhat southward into Mexico and into Southwestern Arizona and New Mexico. This culture was influenced by the Toltecs of Old Mexico. The city itself was well built, highly developed and contained multi-story buildings.

The people of Casas Grandes practiced extensive agriculture. They were artisans in working stone, shell, bone, Turquoise and clay. The Casas Grandes pottery is considered some of the finest discovered in the prehistoric Americas.

A large amount of excavation has been performed by the American Foundation of Arizona and a trip to the site is well worth the additional time spent traveling from Jaurez, Mexico to see its sight.

The following photos display some outstanding and rare examples of this highly advanced culture.

FIG: 40

Reverse side vessel shown in Fig. 39 illustrating the Macaw. The main habitation area was in the northern part of the state of Chihuahua.

FIG: 41

Polychrome Casas Grandes Olla, Black, Cream and Brownish Red. Measuring 8-1/2" high and 8" in diameter, the geometric patterns are very artistically pleasing in this acorn shaped jar.

FIG: 42

Polychrome Olla with spouts, very unusual. Features geometric design in Brownish Red, Black and Cream colors. This Casas Grandes artifact is distinctive in that it also has a wide mouth opening in addition to the four spouts.

Archaeological and Artifact Reference Books

Part I: The General Works
by Bill Koup

As a reader of "Prehistoric Artifacts" and probably a collector of Indian artifacts, it is safe to assume that you are also interested in the attainment of knowledge. Who isn't? Knowledge is the absolute key to the successful building of an authentic artifact collection. Knowledge guides us in our choice of acquisitions. Knowledge allows us to better understand and appreciate what we have. Most important of all, knowledge can be shared with others who need help and guidance.

How does one obtain knowledge? A good question with many answers. One way is to spend long enjoyable hours in the hands-on study of authentic Indian artifacts. There is no better way to get a "feel" for artifacts than to examine, discuss and re-examine as many quality artifacts as possible. This method of study is fine if you live near other collectors who allow frequent and unlimited access to their collections. Otherwise, a reasonable substitute is to attend as many artifact shows, meetings and auctions as possible.

Another way to become a better educated collector, which I'm sure you are aware, is to belong to as many different archaeological societies as feasible. Most of them publish a creditable journal or bulletin that will always impart some degree of knowledge to the careful reader. We can all learn much from the study of the thoughts and photographs submitted by our contemporaries and peers.

A third method, and the subject of this paper, is the study of books. Books can be used on your terms. You can study them as though you will be taking a final exam tomorrow. You can leisurely leaf through them to enjoy the photographs. Your books are always there, ready and waiting to answer your reference questions. A good archaeological library is an invaluable tool for your collection and your knowledge. This value would be difficult to measure in any terms, monetary or otherwise.

In the past year, several fine books have become available to us. Greg Perino published his *Selected Preforms, Points and Knives of the North American Indian* which is an indispensible book for the collector of flint types. Gale Highsmith authored *The Fluted Axe,* a monumental work that is full of photographs, history and research data on this most interesting artifact. The Detroit Institute of Arts published *Ancient Art of the American Woodland Indians,* which contains 140 superb color and black and white photographs of classic Eastern Woodland artifacts. There were other excellent books published this year. If books of this quality continue to be released, we all stand to gain much in our knowledge and understanding of the prehistoric North American Indian. All these recent books are readily available through book dealers, bookstores or directly from the authors.

However, the focus of this and subsequent papers will be on books that are not so readily available. All books I will be mentioning have been long out of print. Some of them are nearly impossible to find, while others are obtainable, but at prices that will raise eyebrows. Regardless of these obstacles, these are books that you shold know about. Seek them out, if possible, for they can offer you immeasurable value as sources of knowledge.

All of the books discussed in this and subsequent articles are from the author's library. You may note that the majority of them place emphasis on the Indians and cultures of the Midwest. As a Midwesterner, I am most interested in the prehistoric cultures that existed here. Therefore, please accept my apologies for omitting the mention of an important archaeological work from another area of the country. It is probably because I do not own the book and therefore am ignorant of its value as a reference.

It must also be mentioned that within the limits of this forum it would be nearly impossible to mention all of the fine out of print archaeological books. There are many more than the ones discussed here, and all of them are valuable sources of knowledge in one way or another. However, the ones reviewed here are thought to be (by this author) as the ones that offer the most to the typical student of prehistoric American cultures and their associated artifacts.

THE GENERAL WORKS

The general works are, as the name implies, books that contain sections on almost all forms of prehistoric artifacts. These books have a very wide appeal as reference works to nearly all collectors. Another desirable feature is the very high number of photographic plates contained in each of them. Most of the artifacts pictured in these books are scattered throughout hundreds of collections today. Present day owners of the artifacts usually want copies of the books as a valuable means for the identification and documentation of their artifacts. This is one reason why these books are often difficult to obtain. The written texts in most of them are usually somewhat dated due to the lack of scientific data available to the authors at the time they were written. One of the writers even bemoans the fact of the deplorable lack of knowledge in the area on which he was writing. Even so, the reader of these volumes will gain an excellent historical perspective on American archaeology. He will be able to compare his own current archaeological knowledge with what was known or thought in the early years of this century.

Some of the books listed in this and subsequent reports have been reprinted in recent years. Reprinted versions of these books are perfectly acceptable alternatives to having the original edition. Having a reprint is vastly superior to having nothing. The main problem with some reprints is in the quality of the photographic illustrations. Often the contrast is so high in the photographs (in reprints) as to offer virtually no detail what-so-ever. Sometimes a dark object such as a slate piece appears as a black silouette in some reprints. However, be sure to examine reprints and judge the quality for yourself because some reprints are excellent in both printing and binding quality. If I am aware of it, all books that have been reprinted will be brought to your attention. On to the books!

A. *THE STONE AGE IN NORTH AMERICA,* Warren K. Moorehead, Volume I and II, 1910

"Stone Age" is one of the most sought after out of print reference works on the subject of Indian artifacts and archaeology. It contains

more than 300 full page photographic plates and 400 other illustrations of over 4000 artifacts. The sheer volume of well photographed and presented material from many of the famous turn of the century collectors is the main reason for this book's continued popularity. This and other Moorehead books contain great group photographs of artifacts from many old-time collections. Without the efforts of Moorehead there would be virtually no photographic or written record of these collectors and their collections. Also, the paper and binding quality are quite high. Most of the existing copies of "Stone Age" that I have seen are in relatively decent condition. Poorly made reference books do not last this long.

Volume I begins with Moorehead's ideas on how to classify artifacts into their respective categories as to the means of manufacture and material used. Moorehead then uses this system throughout the rest of this two volume set. His first major section is on chipped implements. This includes the methods of quarrying and the manufacture of all forms of projectile points, knives, drills, spades and other implements. The adze, axe, celt and gouge are then discussed thoroughly with hundreds of examples illustrating his text. The remaining 25% of Volume I is devoted to what Moorehead calls problematical forms. In some instances that is still a useful term because even at this time scholars are still unsure of some of their uses. In this section Moorehead illustrates all forms of pendants, gorgets, bannerstones, bar amulets, plummets, discoidals, spatulate forms and lizard effigies. Even though Moorehead is unsure of their uses, he goes on to detail many unfounded theories which makes for some very entertaining reading.

Volume II continues with one of Moorehead's favorite subjects...birdstones. Moorehead then devotes the next 70 pages to the discussion and illustration of prehistoric pipes. Hundreds of pipes are shown in the photographs. Many of them are now very famous examples. Volume II continues with sections on mortars and pestles, shell, and bone. The next 80 pages are devoted to prehistoric copper. Seldom since the publication of this book in 1910 has copper been so thoroughly discussed and illustrated. The remainder of this monumental set contains sections on prehistoric textiles, pottery, hematite and miscellaneous objects. Moorehead concludes by stating his theories on population, age, art and culture groups of the prehistoric North American Indians. All the while making a call for more study and research in all archaeological areas.

B. *STONE ORNAMENTS OF THE NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN,* Warren K. Moorehead, 1917

This Andover Press publication contains 448 pages with hundreds of photographs, maps, charts and tabular data. The publishing quality is even better than "Stone Age". The paper is of the highest quality. I have yet to see a copy of "Stone Ornaments" with faded or yellowed pages. However, the cover is very susceptible to light damage. If you own or obtain this book, be sure to store it in subdued light or the spine will easily discolor from the original green to yellow.

This book is a favorite of mine. If I had to get rid of all of my library except for one book, this just might be the book I would keep. The subjects of Moorehead's research in this book are my own personal favorites. A large percentage of this book is devoted to what we commonly call today as "slate". This book is devoted fully to what Moorehead called problematicals in "Stone Age". The major focus being birdstones, bannerstones, pendants, gorgets, plummets and a few miscellaneous other items. Moorehead again makes many quaint conclusions as to the use of these objects by the prehistoric Indians. However, the major worth of this book is the tremendous photographic record of many of the fabulous old-time collections that are preserved and documented here for posterity. It is truly amazing what marvelous assemblages of artifacts many of the early collectors were able to accumulate.

Several of the photographs in "Stone Ornaments" are the same ones that were used in the previously published "Stone Age". However, due to the higher publishing quality of "Ornaments" the resolution and clarity of the photographic plates is superior than in the earlier publication. If your collecting interests are featured in this great publication, you should try to obtain it for your library. I recommend it highly.

C. *PREHISTORIC IMPLEMENTS,* Warren K. Moorehead, 1900

Warren Moorehead was a prolific writer. Besides the three publications of his that are mentioned in this report on the general works, I have five other publications written by him that are much more specific in nature. I can also think of 5 or 6 other archaeological publications of his that I don't have. All of these books were published from around 1890 up to around 1930. This was at a time when very few people were publishing anything on the archaeological status of North America. Warren K. Moorehead met this need for information with a vengeance. A collecting goal might be to see if one could obtain all of the Moorehead publications. It would be a real challenge to do so.

Prehistoric Implements would strain that challenge. It is a very difficult book to find in any reasonable condition. Opposite the title page is the notation that there were 2050 copies of this book published by the Robert C. Clarke Co. However, "Implements" has been reprinted.

The printing and binding quality of "Implements" is good, but certainly not up to the same standards as the later "Stone Age" and "Stone Ornaments" books. There are 423 pages and 621 illustrations of 3000 artifacts in "Prehistoric Implements". It should be noted that a lot of the illustrations are drawings and etchings rather than photographic plates. Also, the photographs that are used are not as clear and crisp as in the later Moorehead works. Despite these shortcomings, "Prehistoric Implements" is a good book, but it just doesn't measure up to the standards Moorehead set for himself in his later works.

Moorehead begins the book by listing 71 different errors that may be found in the text. He was apologetic, but went on to state how he was just recovering from tuberculosis and he didn't yet have the strength necessary to devote to this publication. The text, as in other Moorehead publications, seems dated to the modern reader, but it is very interesting reading nevertheless. At the time this book was published, collectors and archaeologists were arguing over what to call certain artifacts. One example is the discoidal. Moorehead claimed that discoidal was an ambiguous, generic term that did little to describe the object. He proposed the name bicave. We all know how far Moorehead got with that argument. He went on to call everyone who thought that discoidals were paint mortars an idiot. As I have said before, these old publications are often very entertaining.

"Implements" basically covers every section of the country as to the major archaeological sites and the predominant artifact types that are found within each section. While discussing each section of the country, Moorehead also mentions those collectors who have a nice representative collection from that area. The section on the Ohio Valley is the largest and best illustrated in the book.

D. *THE MOUND BUILDERS,* Henry Clyde Shetrone, 1930

H.C. Shetrone, Director and Archaeologist for the Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society published this book before it became fashionable among archaeologists to write their reports in such a way as to induce sleep. Shetrone's text is highly readable, entertaining and knowledge packed. *The Mound Builders* contains 489 pages with 299 illustrations. The binding, paper and photographic quality are excellent. Unfortunately, this book is another very scarce and hard to obtain item. I have seen it offered for sale only 2 or 3 times in the past few years. It must have had a very low publishing run. To my knowledge this book has never been reprinted. However, the libraries in my area have this book on their circulation shelves or in the reference sections.

Shetrone begins "Mound Builders" with an excellent historical narrative on the early theories of the mystifying structures that the pioneers encountered as they explored and moved to the land west of the Appalachian Mountains. He then devotes about half of his book to the discussion of the mound builder Indians and their cultures. Within this section, Shetrone discusses their architecture, commerce, industry and agriculture. Three separate chapters detail burial customs, art and pipes and smoking customs. All of these areas are well illustrated by photographs of outstanding artifacts from the Ohio State Museum collections in Columbus. The rest of the book is devoted to a section by section account of the significant mounds that can be found in all areas of the eastern United States. Shetrone illustrates each section with site maps, landscape photos of major sites and many artifacts that were found at the sites.

Again, this book is highly readable and profusely illustrated. If you get an opportunity to add it to your library, you should. You will benefit from it.

CONCLUSION

It is hoped that in bringing these publications to your attention you will seek them out at your public library, borrow them from your friends (this may be difficult) or even purchase them for your personal library. It may take some time, effort and money, but your gain will make it worth it to you. As stated earlier in this paper, knowledge is the absolute key to your successful endeavors in the hobby of prehistoric American Indian artifacts. These books, old as they may be, can offer you much, if you are willing to invest the study.

A highly respected, knowledgeable collector recently told me of a man that was visiting him for the purpose of viewing his collection. The visitor, also a collector, stated that he didn't own one reference book. He said he didn't need any. We both laughed.

Future installments of this report will include books from other areas of archaeological interests that you may be unaware. Next issue's topic will be the Regional Works. This will be followed by the Specialized Studies, The Great Archaeological Studies and finally the Collector Books. Thanks for reading.

Notice to Editorial Contributors

Please forward all materials (articles, photographs, etc.) to your nearest Regional Editor (names and addresses listed in the front of this journal). If this is not possible, please forward information to the Editor-in-Chief.

1. Articles are preferred typewritten and double spaced on standard 8-1/2" x 11" paper. The author's name and address should appear below the title.

2. Photographs must be glossy black & white: 8 x 10's preferred, 5x7, 4x5's acceptable. NO POLAROIDS!

3. When submitting photographs, please include the following: Size, color of artifact, description of type of material, location of find (when known) such as County, state, name of finder, etc.

4. If quoting another article of publication, please credit the source with a footnote and biographical entry.

5. All photographs, articles, materials submitted cannot be returned after publication as such items are retained in the permanent files of the G.I.R.S.

6. Recently published material may be rejected unless specific reasons are given for doing so. If you have submitted the same information to another publication, please notify us when submitting.

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This society is now in the 20th year of publication. Supplies of some Back Issues are extremely limited. We urge you to order copies of issues desired without delay:

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The Board of Directors of the Genuine Indian Relic Society, Inc. (a non-profit organization) have determined that the 1987 Dues will be set at Twelve ($12.00) dollars. This entitles each member to receive Four (4) quarterly journals. Membership & Subscription dues begin with the Calendar year.

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Statement of Purpose

The specific purpose of this non-profit National Society is to promote friendship and trust among persons interested in the preservation of authentic prehistoric North American artifacts by:

1. *Providing a medium of informational and educational exchange through the regular publication of journals.*
2. *Offering the opportunity for documentation and authentication of artifacts by the society's committee of specialists.*
3. *Taking a positive stand in opposing the display, exchange or distribution of questionable and fraudulent artifacts at society meetings.*

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